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THE PRESIDENT.

From Senator Simmons' Address at the Democratic State Convention.

I do not know what may happen in our relations with the belligerent nations of the old world, than I know what will happen in our relations with Mexico, but I do know that nothing will be done to disturb and disrupt our friendly relations with the government of these belligerent nations which can be avoided with due regard to the honor and dignity of this government and the rights of the American people; and I know that neutrality will be maintained and our peace preserved if it can be done without sacrificing these high interests or abandoning our duty to humanity and civilization.

I know this sentiment represents the hopes and the prayers of the sorely tried man in the White House. He hears, but he is unmoved by the clamor of those who want us to lend ourselves to the cause of one side or the other. He hears, but is unmoved by the clamor of those who want us to plunge into this maelstrom of war and carnage. His great mind and his patriotic heart are centered in one great purpose—namely, to know what his duty is and to do it.

Let no man suspect him in whatever he may do in this behalf as acting from any motive other than that of duty; and let no man believe that he will be swayed from the line of duty as God gives him light to see it and understand it.

If you want a "War Lord" you will not find one in him. If you want a molly-coddle pacifist, you will not find one in him. He is not moved by the militancy of the one or the rhapsodies of the other. He is a plain, direct, resolute man; with a clear vision, steady nerve and stout heart, living always in the fear of God, bent upon serving his country, humanity and civilization regardless of criticism and aggrandizement, personal, political or otherwise. So far as clear vision, mature judgment, unflinching loyalty and patriotism can protect us, we are safe in his hands.

The President does not want war. He will do everything that a great nation and a Christian people ought to do to avoid it, but he wants us to be prepared if the necessity comes to protect our country and defend our rights wherever attacked or called in question, upon land or sea. He wants the world to know that we know our rights and are able and determined to protect and defend them.

He is for preparedness to preserve peace and not for preparedness to make war, unless it is absolutely necessary. His great ambition is to serve men, not to kill them. To elevate humanity, not to brutalize it. But he is keenly jealous of the honor, dignity and glory of his country and the rights of its people.

Not only the President but the American people are in favor of preparedness. This is no longer an issue. But there is an issue, and an acute issue. That issue is, Peace against War! Upon that issue the President stands for peace and against war, and behind him stands the great Democratic party, upon whose banner in the coming campaign will float the inscription: "Preparedness, not for War, but for Peace!"

To keep this country at peace with the world in this world-maelstrom of war is an achievement which if it be accomplished will write the name of Woodrow Wilson high and bold among the world's immortals!

Mr. Lacy Replies to Mr. Linney.

Replying to criticisms of Mr. Frank A. Linney on his administration of the State Treasurer's office, State Treasurer B. R. Lacy makes it plain that the attack is based on what he terms "a long since discredited report of discredited New York auditors, who audited my department in 1904."

"The principal contention is," says Mr. Lacy "that I carried for the years 1912 and 1913 average balances of state funds of \$300,000 to \$500,000 in banks without interest, and was at the same time borrowing money for the state and paying interest on it. These statements are based on the findings of the auditors above referred to, which were incorrect as to the amount of the balance shown on the books, and totally incorrect as to the conclusions drawn from them, for the following reasons:

"The book balance shown on the books of the State Treasurer do not at any time show the actual cash balance in bank. I carry actual accounts with the local banks in every section of the state where a State institution is located for the convenience of the patrons of such institutions. If I send \$100,000 to a bank at Morganton, for illustration, that bank begins paying the money out as proper vouchers are presented it for collection. My books will continue to show balance of \$100,000 on deposit with the bank until it sends in to me for cancellation a month's accumulation of vouchers paid. A situation similar to this exists with reference to funds carried in New York banks for payment of interest on the bonded debt of the State, which amounts to \$400,500 per year. Interest coupons paid by them are never sent in to me under 30 days after they are paid, and in some instances in more than two months, and my books show, as balance on hand, the money that has in this way been paid out 30 to 60 days before. These New York accounts are not carried directly in the name of the State, but through one of the Raleigh banks, which accounts for the showing made of balance carried with the Raleigh bank. These accounts have for 40 years been carried in the name of a Raleigh bank as protection to the funds of the State from bond schemers of the Butler type, who are always on the lookout for some means of forcing the State to pay those old fraudulent bonds, and has proven a wise policy."

Mr. Lacy states that Mr. Linney's conclusions take no account of the auditor's warrants and that in insisting on the State collecting interest balance in the banks, he is advocating something that has already been provided for by the Legislature of 1915 and is now in effect.

"One-sixth of the past three years and four months of my administration," he continues, "foreign auditors have been in my offices auditing my books and it is not charged that a single dollar coming into my hands has not been accounted for or that the State has lost one penny during my administration."

"My books," he adds, "are public property, and no objection will be raised to Mr. Linney's party if he desires to have them audited. In fact, I have gotten used to this auditing business, and feel lonesome without having auditors around."—The Statesville Landmark.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

Democratic Platform.

After a comprehensive review of the past record of the Democratic record in the state and nation, especially during the four years just gone, the convention in Raleigh adopted the following significant planks as the mainstay of the platform for the next four years:

1st. The development of public education has been the chief pride of the Democratic party, and nothing less than an educated citizenship must be the goal of our continued and untiring efforts. Our public school term has been increased to a point much beyond the Constitutional requirements, and we are building school houses at the rate of one for every day that passes.

2nd. The conservation of public health is now recognized as a problem demanding consideration of all enlightened governments. We rejoice in the splendid progress made by our state in combating disease among our people, in reducing our death rate, in increasing the sum total of health, happiness and efficiency of our citizens, and in establishing a justifiable record of healthfulness as compared with other states of the Union. We advocate a continuance and a strengthening of the humane policy now in force in this state for the protection of the public health, and the eradication of preventable diseases.

3rd. The construction and maintenance of improved public roads is one of the greatest problems in the development of our state, and particularly in the development of rural communities. Four years ago there were only 5,000 miles of modern roads in the state. Today we have 15,000 miles of such roads, and every day sees the mileage extended. We pledge our party to a policy of sympathetic aid and encouragement to road building in this state.

4th. We must ever be mindful of the fact that the state derives its strength from its toiling citizens and its rural communities, and we pledge the party to a continuance of the policy of encouraging the best development of the rural community. Under democratic rule the conditions of country life in respect to schools and roads have been vastly improved while by means of the State Department of Agriculture, the A. and M. College and Farm-Life schools intelligent and helpful direction has been given to our farmers, the result of which is manifest in the tremendous increase in the variety and value of the farm products. It is a matter of fact that the value of our farm products doubled from 1900 to 1910 and it has again doubled in the last six years. We favor legislation providing for the incorporation, supervision and control of warehouses for the storing of farm products, in order to facilitate the proper marketing of such products.

5th. Every enterprise looking to the investment of capital and employment of labor should be fostered and encouraged by the state. We pledge, not only to citizens of this state, but to citizens of other states, that all capital invested in legitimate enterprises in North Carolina, whether foreign or domestic, shall have the equal and friendly protection of our laws in their observance, and will be held equally amenable to our laws in their violation.

6th. We reaffirm our confidence in the wisdom and justice of the suffrage amendment to our state constitution. Under its influence we have had freedom from race issues, and both races have enjoyed contentment and pro-

VIOLETS.

The violets again—little wet violets, and there is the clean, sweet breath of Spring. One would lift his head and drink deep—taste this newness, this grateful freshness that is about. There is a quicker leap of life, and nature seems to stir with a kind of tenderness. There is the deeper glow on the faces of children—easier happiness on a tiny, nestling face—girlhood comes to outward whiteness again—the cool, crisp sign of Spring. And in all is the subtle charm of violets—little human, tremulous things, gentle as a lover's whisper, pure as purity. Restful, quaint little flowers, too—simple, appealing—flowers to lay on a baby that has died—to give as seemly tribute to womanhood, to press against the face as easement for a tired heart—such a dear peaceful little flower, all alone in flowerland—emblems of the world's best, and waiting to mock a false face or adorn the beauty that comes from the soul.

With every return of spring and the "violets again" there's added beauty to the literary gem of Isaac Erwin Avery's reprinted above. A word taken away, it would be incomplete; to add another thought would be superfluous. Morganton has the proud distinction of having given to the world for even a brief life's span the late lamented author of this beautiful little masterpiece. His memory will live as long as the violets come again, for a few equals to "The Violets" in prose or poetry.—Morganton News-Herald.

Cut This Out—It's Worth Money

Don't miss this: Cut out this slip, enclose with 5c. to Foley & Co., Chicago, Ill., writing your name and address clearly. You will receive in return a trial pack age containing Foley's Honey and Tar Compound for bronchial coughs, colds and croup; Foley Kidney Pills and Foley Cathartic Tablets. M. B. Blackburn.

Bud Fisher's Snug Income.

"Bud" Fisher, creator of "Mutt and Jeff," is the highest paid cartoonist on earth. He gets \$150,000 a year for making the American people chuckle—which is twice what the President gets for shaping their National destiny. Furthermore, Fisher is troubled neither by international complications nor by office-seekers. His office is in his hat.

For drawing six comic strips a week for forty-eight weeks a year this genial humorist receives \$78,000, John N. Wheeler explains in the American Magazine for May. The rest of his income is made up from vaudeville engagements, which bring him a thousand dollars a week, the proceeds from five "Mutt and Jeff" shows and animated cartoons; the sale of an annual "Mutt and Jeff" book, post-cards, plaster figures, buttons and other novelties.

On an average it takes Fisher two hours to draw his daily comic strip for which he is paid at the rate of \$270 an hour, or nearly \$5 a minute.

Fisher is the Midas of mirth. His marked success has done more than any other influence to lift the level of American cartoonist's salary. These accomplishments, startling in themselves, become almost bewildering when you consider that he is only thirty years old and never took a drawing lesson in his life.—Ex.

perity. The hazard to its valid continuance makes it imperative for the public good that Democratic supremacy in the state be maintained.

BICKETT AND LINNEY.

Mr. E. G. Kestler, a Republican, of Concord, delivers himself thusly in the Greensboro News, on the candidates for gubernatorial honors in North Carolina: "It is almost a certainty now that Mr. Bickett and Mr. Linney will be the opposing candidates for Governor in our State this year. It is true, the campaign will be upon an elevated plane and be one conducted by men of high intellects and characters. Both gentlemen are richly endowed by nature and training with all the graces of the true orator and both are logicians of no mean pretensions and in their leadership the principles of government and the opposing policies of their parties will receive the treatment of the master. The historic campaign of Vance and Settle will be enacted over again with the result problematic. Rhetoric and rounded periods will float upon the zephyrs. Demosthenese and Cicero will lose their charms and fade away before the coming heroes of a new era.

"From the snow-capped mountain peaks to the sounding sea, from South Carolina to the Mother of Presidents, the scenes will be those long remembered in history and long chanted by the firesides. A memorable campaign is about to be born. By such a campaign the world of letters will be brightened, the catalogue of puns and true pathos will be enlarged, the political atmosphere will be surcharged with dynamics, and the voters will beedified, electrified and many of them will be transfused from the Donkey to the Elephant and vice-versa.

"The new dispensation that will be thus ushered in will spell great things for our Commonwealth. It will elevate the political arena, centralize public thought, open politics and principles and carve the names of the two leaders in letters of gold high on the arch of fame, and perhaps weave their virtues and their merits deep into the hearts of their countrymen and the partisans."

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Colds running of nose, continued irritation of the mucous membrane if neglected may mean catarrh later. Don't take the chance—do something for your child! Children will not take every medicine, but they will take Dr. King's New Discovery and without bribing or teasing. It's a sweet, pleasant Tar Syrup and so effective. Just laxative enough to eliminate the waste poisons. Almost the first dose helps. Always prepared, no mixing or fussing. Just ask your druggist for Dr. King's New Discovery. It will safeguard your child against serious ailments resulting from colds.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

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